



## Knightly News

Volume 3

September 2008

Number 3

### Calendar of Events

Sep 4	Ministry leader's Night of Reflection with Father Mike 7:00 PM; (Church)
Sep 9	1st Degree Exemplification 6:30 PM (Nativity)
Sep 11	Prayers for Peace
Sep 12	Fourth Degree Assembly Meeting 6:30 PM (St. Clement)
Sep 13	Respect Life Clinic Trip 6:00 AM
Sep 13	K of C Soccer Tournament 9:00 AM —12:00 Noon; (Contact Rick Hughes)
<b>Sep 13</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Falcons) 4:15 Game; 11:15 Departure</b>
Sep 17	Blue Mass-Honoring those who protect us 7:00 PM (Church)
Sep 20	2nd degree Exemplification 8:00 AM (St Stephen School)
Sep 20	Memorial Mass for Marty Bergen 11:00 AM (Church)
Sep 20-21	Parish Ministry Fair 3:00 PM (Church)
Sep 26	Banquet of Life 6:00PM—9:00PM (St Lawrence Parish)
Sep 27-28	KofC State Golf Tournament
Sep 27-28	Christ Renews His Parish (Contact John Montaldo)
Sep 27	Bell Shoals Road Clean-up 9:30 AM (Beef O'Brady parking lot)
<b>Sep 28</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Packers) 1:00 PM Game; 8:00 AM Departure</b>
<b>Oct 1</b>	<b>Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Church MPR)</b>
Oct 10	Fourth Degree Assembly Meeting 6:30 PM
Oct 11	Respect Life Clinic Trip 6:00 AM
Oct 11	3rd Degree Exemplification Tentative (St. Clement)
<b>Oct 12</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Panthers) 1:00 PM Game; 8:00 AM Departure</b>
Oct 17	K of C Family Social 6:30 PM Church
Oct 18	1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM (St Stephen School)
<b>Oct 19</b>	<b>Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Seahawks) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure</b>
Oct 22	Visit to VA Hospital (Contact Herb Swoope)

### Keep in Your Prayers

We are very sad to report that Marty Bergen lost his bout with cancer this past week. There will be a memorial mass for him on Saturday, September 20th at 11:00 AM. Please plan to attend to pay your final respects to him and to give your condolences to his wife, Jennifer.

Also keep in your prayers John Joyce and Tom Bailey who continue to work through medical issues



## Officers

### Grand Knight

*Julio Alvarez, Jr*

### Deputy Grand Knight

*Chuck Lusky*

### Chancellor

*Jerry Westbrook*

### Warden

*Greg Celestan*

### Treasurer

*John Sepessy*

### Advocate

*Jim Kelly*

### Recorder

*Paul Crescimone*

### Inside Guard

*John Columbia III*

### Outside Guard

*Dan Laughman  
Anthony Giaccone*

### Trustees

Three Years- *Rick Hughes, PGK*  
Two Years—*Nick Turco, PGK*  
One Year-*Ed Milius, PGK*

### Field Agents

*Thomas P. Cummings III*  
813-625-2444

Email: [Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org](mailto:Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org)

*Thomas P. Cummings IV*  
813-857-7345

Email: [Tom.Cummings@kofc.org](mailto:Tom.Cummings@kofc.org)

## Directors & Chairs

### Membership Director

*Darin O'Neal*

### Program Director

*Chuck Lusky*

### Church Committee

*Matt Preszler*

### Community Committee

*Herb Swoope*

### Council Committee

*Scott Sheffield*

### Family Committee

*John Montaldo*

### Youth Committee

*Tom Bailey*

### Degree Team Captain

*Rick Hughes*

### Public Relations

*Greg Grambor*

### RJS Concessions Contact

*Julio Alvarez, Jr.*

### Newsletter Editor

*Nick Turco*

### Columbian Squires Counselors

*Rob Fisher  
Tom Bailey*

### Resource Links

#### Council Web Site

[www.kofc14084.org](http://www.kofc14084.org)

#### Florida State Council

[www.floridastatecouncil.com](http://www.floridastatecouncil.com)

#### Supreme Council:

[www.kofc.org](http://www.kofc.org)



## Grand Knight's Report

*Julio Alvarez, Jr*  
Julio Alvarez 662-1845  
jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com

### **To my Brother Knights and your Families:**

I open this month's report with the sad news regarding our Brother Knight, Marty Berger, who after fighting a long and difficult, however, brave battle with his illness, finally succumbed and passed away late morning on Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. I spoke to Marty's widow, Jennifer, and conveyed condolences on behalf of the Knights, who she mentioned where an important and inspiring part of Marty's last days. I further pledged our commitment to support her with any help she might need.

**The Memorial Mass for Brother Marty Bergen** is scheduled to occur on **Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 11 am** at St Stephen Catholic Church. **THIS IS WHERE EVERY BROTHER KNIGHT SHOULD PLAN TO BE ON THIS DAY.** Jennifer requested a Rosary as part of the Mass, which is traditionally led by the Knights of Columbus for a deceased Brother Knight. This is being coordinated with the Church and I will provide you more information as it becomes available. I ask my Brother Knights to rally in support of the family of our departed Brother at this most difficult time – reminding all that this is exactly at the core of why the Knights of Columbus were founded. I solicit your continued prayers for Marty as well as his wife Jennifer, daughter Jessica and son John.

By mid-month you will be receiving correspondence from me outlining my goals for our Council for the upcoming year and beyond. Additionally, I will provide you a list of questions that I would like you to ponder and answer in preparation for a telephonic survey, assisted by your Service Program Directors, which I intend to conduct between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of this month. The purpose of this survey is to gauge your perceptions regarding the Knights of Columbus, in particular our Council, how we are serving the community, how we are meeting your expectations, any ideas you have on what we might be able to do, or not do, to increase your participation, gauge your commitment and where your interests lie and overall any ideas on how to improve our Council. We also want to verify administrative and contact information for each member. I ask you to please participate and respond to the phone

inquiries by your Brother Knights. You are important to this Council and the Order and you joined this organization because of what we do, what we are capable of doing and the difference that together we can make in our Church and Community. Therefore, it is very important to me that I reach out to each and every member of this great and active Council – because you matter to us!

Brothers, I want you to consider a couple of things. The first is to ask yourself why you joined this great Order and our St Stephen Council. I have often spoken about degrees of participation based upon your individual work and family responsibilities; however, I want you to consider that as a service organization – we should expect at least some level of participation in the Council and the activities we support. I am not asking for much– only a little part of why you joined us. We cannot do all we are capable of without each and every member contributing something of their time and talent at least once or twice in one year. We have many brothers who participate in a multitude of activities, but there are many others who I know could be helping to share some of the burden. As Catholic Gentlemen and Brother Knights in an organization founded on helping one another, it is counter-intuitive to let a few brothers burn themselves out by carrying the load which could significantly be lightened by even a meager, yet heartfelt effort from every member on our rolls. I do not want our Council to be 'like other Councils' who develop a large roll of members but exist on the works of a small core of dedicated individuals. We are a relatively young and surely an energetic council existing in a vibrant catholic community. We should be reflecting that in our participation in this great organization.

Without exception – the Brothers and Families who embrace our Unity and Fraternity never regret the love and spirit that emanates from the time we spend together – whether it be sweating while completing some difficult but worthy project for someone in need, or enjoying each other's company by sharing laughs, meals and spirituality at church and social events. You and your family are what Father Michael J. McGivney thought about when he founded this great Order. It is so important in these days that we develop a foundation of faith and commitment to our God, our Church and our families...and what bet-



Game	Date	Opponent	Depart St Stephen	Stadium Check In	Stand Opens	Kick Off	Remarks/Status	
1	Sun, Aug 17	New England Patriots	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	6:00PM	8:00PM	Complete (7 volunteers)	
2	Sat, Aug 23	Jacksonville Jaguars	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	5:30 PM	7:30 PM	Complete (11 volunteers)	
3	Sun, Sep 14	Atlanta Falcons	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	2:05 PM	4:05 PM	Fully Staffed (12 Vols)	
4	Sun, Sep 28	Green Bay Packers	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Need 6 more volunteers	
5	Sun, Oct 12	Carolina Panthers	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Need 7 more volunteers	
6	Sun, Oct 19	Seattle Seahawks	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	6:15 PM	8:15 PM	Need 6 more volunteers	
7	Sun, Nov 16	Minnesota Vikings	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Overstaffed (15 Vols)	
8	Sun, Nov 28	New Orleans Saints	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Need 6 more volunteers	
9	Sun, Dec 21	San Diego Chargers	3:15 PM	4:15 PM	6:15 PM	8:15 PM	Need 7 more volunteers	
10	Sun, Dec 28	Oakland Raiders	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	Need 6 more volunteers	
		TBA Wild Card Playoff						
		TBA Divisional Playoff						
Sun, Feb 1, 09 SUPERBOWL XVI						6:00 PM		





## Chaplain's Report

*Rev Bill Swengros*

689-4900

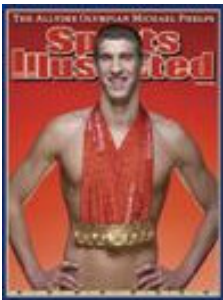
*pastor@ststephencatholic.org*



Brother Knights,

I don't know about you, but these Olympics really captured my attention. Each night I sat glued to the television set as I watched some of the most talented men and women compete in these games.

Who could not be inspired by the likes of Michael Phelps with his single minded determination and humility? I was also touched by the woman gymnasts – such incredible talent and courage. I have to admit that I was humbled when I saw them land flat on their backs only to get up and try again. I don't think I have been forged out of that same metal. Remember Dutch open



water swimmer van der Weijden who won the gold and a second life after just beating leukemia? How about Natalie De Toit and her quest for the gold despite having lost a leg in a tragic accident?

I have to admit that I was brought to tears as I thought of the sacrifices each athlete made throughout life to be able to compete on such a world stage. The endless practices, special diets, and exhausting competitions. They sacrificed so

much to achieve so much.

The fact is, we are all called to be Olympians in our own way. St. Paul exhorts us to run the race as if to run and fight the good fight. He challenges us to discipline and train our bodies so that we can win the imperishable crown of glory (1 Cor 9:24-27).

As we begin a new school year, why not start training. Start with baby steps. Make a commitment to pray every day and perhaps read a little from your Bible during your lunch break. You could add a rosary or chaplet of Divine Mercy for your long commute. Make it a rule to never miss Sunday Mass and perhaps start going to Mass and Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday evenings.

Invite your spouse and children to join you for prayer before meals. Once they begin getting comfortable with your family prayer, add spontaneous prayers of thanksgiving and supplication for those in need. Perhaps you could even invite your spouse to join you for an informal bible study each night. Just read a short passage and share what it means to each of you. Remember, there is rarely a wrong way to interpret the Scriptures.

Of course, our Spirituality is nothing if it is not lived. Get more involved in the parish community. The Knights of Columbus offer so many opportunities for you to share your valuable time and incredible talents. Try to volunteer in at least one activity a month.

Lastly, be sure to give your family the time and energy they are due. After all, they are among the finest gifts God has given you.

Be assured of my continued prayers and support.

Fr. Bill Swengros  
Chaplain



## Membership Report

Brothers,

**Congratulations & Welcome!** Welcome and Congratulations to our three newest members who were Exemplified in the First Degree of our Order during our Ceremony held on Saturday, August 16 at St Stephen School, they are Steven Bapp, James English and Bill Smith.

We have the **Ministry Fair** September 20 & 21 and will man a display table and recruit men to join the Knights. I will need volunteers to cover all the masses.

**Second Degree Exemplification.** The Second Degree Exemplification at the School on Saturday, September 20 will start at 9:00 AM, **ONE HOUR EARLIER** than usual. Candidates and sponsors reporting at 8:00 AM. The time change is necessary because a Memorial Service will be held for Marty Bergen at 11:00 AM the same day.

Please let me know if you are ready for advancement. [joneal@kingengineering.com](mailto:joneal@kingengineering.com)

**Admissions Committee.** Convenes monthly at 6:30 pm on the day of our Council Business Meetings (normally the first Wednesday of the Month) at St Stephen Catholic Church. Sponsors & Applicants report at 5:30 pm to complete necessary forms prior to appearing before the Committee. ***Dress Code is Casual.*** Please read and familiarize yourself with our Council's Admissions Process found on our Website. **Sponsors** have a great responsibility in the early experiences of a new member in our Council – one which we take very seriously. The Admissions & First Degree Exemplification Checklist (found on the Website Downloads Page) must be completed by each sponsor for every new Applicant. Following the checklist ensures that all the information required of a new Applicant is accurate, complete and that all milestones are met. Sponsors with Applicants desiring to join the Knights must contact our Admissions Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Bill Queenan** at Email: [admissions@kofc14084.org](mailto:admissions@kofc14084.org), Phone: **651-4140**, no later than the Tuesday before the scheduled Admissions Committee to coordinate requirements. The next Admissions Committee is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 3.**

**First Degree Exemplification.** *For approved Candidates*, our Council conducts a First Degree Exemplification bi-monthly at St Stephen School on Saturdays. Candidates and sponsors report no later than 9 am. The Ceremony begins at 10 am. ***Dress Code is Casual.*** Sponsors, with Approved Candidates, must contact our First Degree Coordination Team Leader, Sir Knight Bill Queenan at Email: [1stdegree@kofc14084.org](mailto:1stdegree@kofc14084.org), Phone: **651-4140**, no later than one week before a scheduled Degree to coordinate requirements. The next First Degree Exemplification is scheduled for **Saturday, October 18th** at **St Stephen School.**

**Third Degree Exemplification.** Normally occur quarterly at locations throughout the Tampa area normally on Saturdays, with Candidates reporting at 1 pm. ***Dress Code is Coat & Tie.*** Only those Brothers having completed their Third Degree Advancement Preparation requirements, and approved by our Worthy Grand Knight, are eligible for attendance. Second Degree Members who have completed requirements for approval as a candidate for Advancement to the Second Degree must coordinate with their sponsor and contact our Third Degree Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Greg Celestan** at Email: [3rddegree@kofc14084.org](mailto:3rddegree@kofc14084.org), Phone: **655-4007**

**Fourth Degree Exemplification.** The next Fourth Degree Exemplification is scheduled to occur on **Saturday, November 27th** at Cape Canaveral. ***Dress Code is formal, Black Tuxedo.*** Third Degree Members desiring to advance to the honor of membership in the Fourth Degree of the Order must have a Fourth Degree Sponsor and must complete their Fourth Degree Advancement Preparation requirements and be approved as a Candidate by the Bishop McGloughlin Assembly 1850 Admissions Committee. Additionally, at the time of the Exemplification, Candidates must have been a member in good standing in the Knights of Columbus for at least one year (6 months with waiver), Sponsors of Applicants who have completed their requirements for approval as a Candidate for Advancement to the Fourth Degree must contact our Fourth Degree Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Julio Alvarez, Jr.** at Email: [4thdegree@kofc14084.org](mailto:4thdegree@kofc14084.org), Phone: **662-1845/Cell: 401-7683** to coordinate and validate approval requirements.



## Membership Report cont'd

### WORK ON YOUR ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS!

Being a Knight means being involved and learning about our Order, our Principles, and most importantly... learning to better practice our Faith. I encourage each and every one of you, whether working towards a degree or sponsoring a potential Candidate, to make the effort to grow as a Knight by taking an active part in achieving the requirements to advancement in the Order.

Finally, please continue your efforts to build the Council and the Order by recruiting **quality** Catholic Gentlemen with the energy and spirit to make a difference in our Community. Don't deny those potential members from being a part of such a great organization!

**Darin O'Neal**  
**Membership Director**  
**Knights of Columbus St Stephen Council**  
**#14084**  
**Phone: 671-18335; Cell: 244-2249**  
**Email: [membership@kofc14084.org](mailto:membership@kofc14084.org)**



St. Stephen Catholic Church Presents



## Blue Mass 2008

*The "Blue Mass" is celebrated for the Spiritual intentions of police, firefighters, rescue and first responders.*

**Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at 7 p.m.**



The Blue Mass dates back to 1934 in Washington, D.C. While the Blue Mass is a common tradition in the Northeast United States, it has more recently been extended throughout the U.S. Particularly in the wake of September 11, 2001. The Blue Mass is a way to honor and recognize the sacrifice of Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Paramedics, Rescue and other first responders, and to remember those who have given their lives in service to their communities.



The Knights of Columbus, St Stephen Council 14084 cordially invite Parishioners, families and friends to attend this very special Mass to be celebrated by our Pastor Father Bill Swengros. Let's all join together in this memorial of those who've paid the ultimate sacrifice to keep us, our families and communities safe, and together pray for the safety of those who've served, and those who continue to serve - and their families. Please join us in a 'St Stephen Parish' demonstration of our heartfelt appreciation as we 'Honor Those Who Protect Us.'

\* The Mass will be followed by light refreshments at the Church.

## Fraternal Agent's Report

The New Columbian Year is off to a great start. We have had a few First Degrees and Installations and the enthusiasm level is very high. With the opportunity for EVERY member to earn the Knight in Shining Armor this year membership growth should be strong.

How about you, are you going to recruit a new member? A brother, a son, a neighbor, a golf buddy, a co-worker, someone you regularly see at Mass, there are lots of possibilities.

Within the District, we have had a number of difficult situations:

- Brothers with serious health issues,
- Brothers who have lost jobs,
- Brothers who have lost benefits do to cut backs at work or in retirement.

The importance of a Fraternal Review cannot be overemphasized. If you have not had a visit in the past two years I would urge you give me call and set up an appointment.

With respect to new members, no new member should take his Third Degree before meeting with the Fraternal Agent. Don't delay the opportunity for your Knighthood Degree.

Fraternally,  
Tom Cummings  
813-625-2444





## Knights of Columbus On **FOURTH DEGREE** *Highest degree of Knighthood.*

Aug 20<sup>th</sup>, members of the Assembly visited the Haley VA Hospital and Nursing home, as well as the Fisher House. This was the first of what is expected to be an every-other-month occurrence. Sir Knights brought donations of amenities to the Nursing Home and visited with many veterans, and got a very good tour of the Fisher House. Thanks to Herb Swoope for organizing and executing this effort! The next Fourth Degree Exemplification on November 29. If you are a Third Degree member, please consider joining us for a great experience and a fun

time! See Grand Knight Julio Alvarez or the Assembly Membership Director Jerry Westbrook about the admissions requirements. The Assembly is tentatively planning a social for prospective candidates on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Upcoming Color Corps Events:

Sep 17 Blue Mass 7 PM @ St Stephen

Sep 30 Our Lady of Guadalupe Dedication TBD

The next Assembly meeting will be Friday, Sep 12th at St Clement Catholic Church. The Family Potluck Social will begin at 6:30 PM, with the meeting beginning promptly at 7:30 PM.

*Rick Hughes*

*Faithful Captain and Color Corps Commander*

*Bishop McLaughlin Assembly #1850*

## *Congratulations to our newest 4th degree Knight....Father Eva*







## Committee Reports

### Council Activities

- Be sure to mark you calendars for November 7th for our First Annual Casino Night. We will need your assistance on that night as dealers, food and beverage servers, cleanup crew, etc. If you own a business or work at one that would be willing to sponsor a table or donate a prize, please let me know as well. All proceeds will go to the Knights of Columbus Helping Life Fund.

- Please welcome our newest Council Program Member - Steve Bapp. He has recently taken his First Degree and jumped right in to help - awesome!

Our Program will be forming a Welcoming Committee to assist new members in becoming familiar with what we do, when we do it, how we do it, and where we do it. If you feel called to serve your Council in this way, please contact me. If you are a new member and you have questions or need assistance with getting started in the Council, please contact me as well.

Scott Sheffield  
Council Program Director  
[sheff9@gmail.com](mailto:sheff9@gmail.com)  
813-352-1223

### Youth Activities



Due to the generosity of the St. Stephen's parishioners and the efforts of the Columbian Squires, hundreds of pairs of shoes were collected to

help those who could benefit from them. The response was overwhelming. Most of the shoes were given to T.H.O.R.N. Ministry, the St. Vincent DePaul Society and to needy people overseas.

Rob Fisher  
Tom Bailey  
Youth Activities



**Hundreds of Shoes for the Needy**



## Community Activities

### **Knights of Columbus World Day of Prayer for Peace**

The Knights of Columbus World Day of Prayer for Peace seeks to unite Knights, Catholics and all people of good will – regardless of their religious faith – in prayer for peace. While Sept. 11 will always be remembered for the tragic loss of life, Knights hope that this somber occasion will be the foundation of an annual opportunity for a day of earnest prayer for peace in the world. To commemorate this tragedy with dignity and hope, the Supreme Council passed a [resolution](#) in 2004 to observe September 11 as a day of prayer for peace. "The World Day of Prayer for Peace will bring to the world the Church's message of peace and reconciliation, so that religion will always be a cause for mutual respect and harmony, and never for violence or hatred".

### **Respect Life Rosary (Woman's Abortion Clinic) is scheduled for September 13, 2008**

**6:00 a.m.** The council is looking for couple to assist helping the pro-life program. If you are interested please contact Herbert Swoope at 813-628-0699 or e-mail [hswoope@msn.com](mailto:hswoope@msn.com).

### **Blue Mass**

The Blue Mass is a way to honor and recognize the sacrifice of police and firefighters as well as paramedics and all other first responders in our community. If you are a member of these noble occupations please join us in celebration along with your family and friends. In order to recognize your service please plan on attending in Class A uniform if possible or display your agencies identification. All are invited to attend this celebration for the spiritual intentions of those sworn to serve.

### **Military:**

#### **Serving Those Who Served**

Our first visit to the James A Haley Veterans Hospital, Nursing Home, Fisher House and Haley House was August 20, 2008. We had a great turn out. Knights of Columbus are dedi-

cated to the principle of patriotism, and have led the Order in this effort through the "Serving Those Who Served" program. Our efforts are to maintain contact with active, injured, nursing home residents and retired military and their families. The Order is dedicated to visiting and supplying needed items that are not readily available to them.

### **Items Needed**

Cloth Wheelchair Bags\_\_for the "back" of wheelchairs, with loops or tie strings sewn in at the top on both sides, size 18" x 12"; Cloth, Foley Catheter Bags with drawstring across the top, size 16" x 10", and Ditty Bags 12" x 12".

DVD and VHS movies  
WII Games  
Play Station and games  
UNO cards  
Toaster oven  
Portable CD player  
Regular cookies / diabetic cookies  
Toaster Strudel  
Arts and crafts  
Granola bars

The Knights Of Columbus Assembly is doing a fundraiser for VAVS. First Place will be two tickets to a Lighting game. Second place will be a gift certificate for two at Ruby Tuesdays. Third Place will be \$50.00 cash. Drawing will be November 3 at Casino night at St. Stephen church.

Tickets \$1.00 or six for \$5.00.

Our next visit to the James Haley Facility will be October 22 at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

We are looking for help to serve on the following committees. Please consider helping.

Road Clean UP  
Special Olympics  
Pro - Life  
Military

God Bless  
Herbert Swoope